

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/071,109

Examiner

Tarifur R Chowdhury

Applicant(s)

BAYRLE ET AL.

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 07/23/02.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-39.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
 - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
 - (b) ☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed 23 July 2002, which has been approved by the Examiner.
 - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

The current abstract has been replaced by the following:

-- A liquid crystal display (LCD) panel having LCD-modules with a plurality of picture element (pixels), a control circuit, and a backlight apparatus, the control circuit in communication with the pixels, the backlight apparatus configured to backlight the control circuit, the LCD panel comprising: a first edge zone and a second edge zone defined on at least a first and a second LCD-module, the control circuit disposed about the first edge zone, the first edge zone of the first LCD-module interposed between the backlight apparatus and the second edge zone of the second LCD-module, the first edge zone of the first LCD-module spaced apart from the second edge zone of the second LCD-module at a distance configured to accommodate a light device for shadow reduction.--

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 12-39 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
4. The prior arts of record do not anticipate or render obvious to one skilled in the art a liquid crystal panel having plurality of LCD-modules comprising various elements as claimed, more specifically the control circuit being disposed about the first edge zone of a first LCD-module wherein the first edge zone is interposed between the backlight apparatus and the second edge zone of the second LCD-module and the first edge zone of the first LCD-module is spaced apart from the second edge zone of the second LCD-module at a distance configured to accommodate a light device for shadow reduction.
5. A single LCD-display module having a plurality of single, controllable pixel elements by control circuits are known. Further, such circuits are normally installed in the edge areas of the LCD-display module as disclosed by DE 296 07 786 U1 (cited in IDS). Further, DE 42 09 072 A1 (cited in the IDS) discloses individual LCD-modules. However, if the display modules disclosed by DE 42 09 072 A1 are placed next to and above one another, then dark, inactive stripes appear in which no display is possible. Similarly since in DE 296 07 786 U1 when individual LCD-modules were placed in a framework a cross hatched pattern was formed and thus no display could be made. Further, USPAT 5,838,405 discloses a display device having large-scaled screen made by connecting a plurality of display panels which eliminates inconsistencies in color in a resulting display image caused by undesirable variance in cell gap in each display panel

and make the display panels less noticeable. USPAT 6,285,343 discloses a modular flat-screen display wherein the image on each module extends to the edge of the module and control and drive circuits positioned adjacent the second major surface of the substrate. USPAT 5,164,853 discloses a liquid crystal display panel with plurality of substrates wherein the terminal of the upper substrate is electrically connected to the terminals of the lower substrate through a conductive resin. However, all the above references as well as any other prior art references alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest the claimed liquid crystal panel wherein the first edge zone of the first LCD-module having control circuits thereon spaced apart from the second edge zone of the second LCD-module at a distance configured to accommodate a light device for shadow reduction.

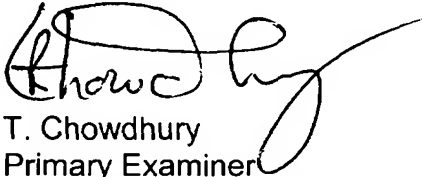
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tarifur R Chowdhury whose telephone number is (703) 308-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th (6:30-5:00) Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William L Sikes can be reached on (703) 305-4842. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Art Unit: 2871

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Chowdhury", with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

T. Chowdhury
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2800

TRC
August 28, 2003